CHESTERTON (CAMBS.)

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

For the Year 1894

BY

BUSHELL ANNINGSON, M.D., M.A.

Cambridge University Lecturer in Medical Jurisprudence, Fellow Sanitary Institute, Associate King's College, London, &c., &c.

Medical Officer of Health.

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J. PALMER, 9 & 10, ALEXANDRA STREET

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REPORT.

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year 1894.

The total number of deaths registered is 349, but this requires correction, inasmuch as the deaths outside the district of persons belonging thereto are respectively 13 in the Workhouse and 7 in Addenbrooke's Hospital which must be added, while those which have occurred in the County Asylum at Fulbourn (40) not belonging to the district must be subtracted, producing a corrected total of 329, which is equal to a death-rate from all diseases of 14·0 per thousand living per annum. The rate of the previous year was 13·8, and that of 1892 19·2. There have been 29 deaths in the group of zymotic disease, equal to a death rate from these diseases of 0·9 per thousand, viz.: from Scarlatina 1, Measles 10, Membranous Croup 1, Whooping Cough 7, Typhoid Fever 3, Diarrhœa 7. There have also occurred 28 deaths due to Influenza. The number of births registered is 588, equal to a birth rate of 25·0 per thousand per annum. The ratio of deaths under one year of age to 1000 registered births is 105.

After assigning to each of the sub-districts its share of the deaths in the above three public institutions, as per subjoined table, the vital statistics are respectively:—Willingham, general death rate 16·0, zymotic death rate 1·6, birth rate 26·8; Shelford, general death rate 11·9, zymotic death rate 0·7, birth rate 24·0; Fulbourn, general death rate 13·4, zymotic death rate 1·3, birth rate 23·7.

Sub-District.	Registered Deaths.	Addenbrooke's Hospital.	Workhouse.	County Asylum.	Total.	Death Rate.
Willingham	145	3	2	1	151	16·0
Fulbourn	77	2	8	1	88	13·4
Shelford	83	2	3	2	90	11·9
Entire District ...	305	7	13	4	329	14·0

DISEASE INCIDENCE.

Disease Incidence. Small Pox.

Between April 7th and 13th two cases of small pox were notified as occuring at Fen End and Lordship Lane, Willingham. On April 6th I received from Mr. R. T. Lewis, the District Medical Officer of the Willingham District, a letter enclosing one which he had just received from Mr. Peskett, Medical Officer of Health to the Leyton Local Board, stating it had come to his knowledge that a man had on Good Friday (March 23rd) travelled from the Leyton District to Willingham, where he stayed with a family at Fen End till the night of Easter Monday, when he returned to the Leyton District, and on the following Tuesday (March 27th) had gone to the West Ham Hospital, where he was pronounced to be suffering from small pox. Enquiry was immediately instituted at the house in question at Willingham, and it was found that the visitor had a few "places" about his face. The inmates of the house, viz. the husband, wife, and lodger appeared at the time of my visit to be in good health, but were told of the condition of their friend, were offered re-vaccination, and their house was thoroughly disinfected; notwithstanding these measures, the wife was attacked with small pox twelve days later (April 6th). It was ascertained that the man from Leyton went twice to one chapel and once to another on Easter Sunday, and visited several persons in Willingham; and on Easter Monday went to Somersham in the St. Ives District. Steps were taken to re-vaccinate all the persons who had been exposed to the chance of infection. A second case occurred (April 13th) at Lordship Terrace, in the same

part of the village as the first case, and this man was one of those who sat near the man at the chapel, but it is difficult to connect this case with that of the man at Leyton, in consequence of the time that elapsed since their association at the chapel; it may, however, have been indirectly contracted from the first case in some way that could not be ascertained.

Both cases were treated at an empty house, which was especially hired as a temporary hospital, under the care of a trained nurse, and made a good recovery. A third family, which appeared to have been specially exposed to infection were kept under observation during the incubation period of small pox.

Scarlatina has prevailed much less extensively than during the year 1893; the villages especially assailed have been those of the Shelford registration sub-district. Out of a total number of 21 cases, eight have occurred in the Fulbourn Asylum, and ten in the Shelford sub-district. Three cases were notified at Harston, one in February, which was probably a remanent of the year previous, and two in October, which appeared to have some connection with the cases at Haslingfield. Two cases in the neighbouring village of Hauxton in February were also probably the remanent of the previous year. At Haslingfield four cases in one family were notified between October 28th and November 5th, but there is reason to believe that there were three other families at least in the village who had had mild attacks but had had no medical advice. Under these circumstances it was thought desirable to close the schools. It was surmised that the disease might have been originally introduced from Barrington, in the Royston District, or from Harston, but enquiry elicited that the disease prevailing at Barrington was really measles or German measles. Scarlatina.

One case only was notified at Comberton, which could not in any way be accounted for.

In the Willingham sub-district an isolated case occurred at Waterbeach.

In the Fulbourn sub-district one case which had been imported from Exning Road, Newmarket (February 28th) occurred in the village of Fulbourn. During July and August eight cases occurred at the Lunatic Asylum; the introduction of the disease could not be satisfactorily traced, but after its introduction each successive

case was contracted from a preceding case, notwithstanding the precautions taken by the officials in the institution.

The usual method of disinfection was carried out by the Inspector of Nuisances in all the households assailed.

Diphtheria.

At Great Shelford two cases of Diphtheria occurred in one household (May 19th and 23rd) at Brand's Yard; the premises are still in a very bad sanitary state, and have a bad sanitary history.

At Cottenham three cases in two households were notified during October and November; no satisfactory cause could be discovered, but throat illness of diphtheritic character has frequently occurred from time to time during past years in this village. I may remark that both the drainage and water supply of this place continue to be very unsatisfactory.

Membranous Croup.

At Cherryhinton one fatal case of Membranous Croup occurred, and one case of Tracheitis, which may have been of essentially the same character as the preceding.

Typhoid Fever.

Sporadic cases of Typhoid Fever have occurred in a few places during the year. At Cottenham one case occurred (May 7th) at Church End which could not be accounted for.

A fatal case occurred (October 22nd) at the new part of Cherryhinton, which on enquiry appeared to have been imported from Maidstone; no very serious sanitary defects could be discovered at the household.

At Home End, Fulbourn, a fatal case occurred (February 27th); the water was obtained generally from a standpipe, but owing to its distance from the dwelling, the water was not infrequently obtained from a shallow well at the back of the premises.

Three cases occurred (one fatal) at the County Lunatic Asylum, which is situate in this parish. An enquiry into the sanitary condition of the building was instituted, and sanitary defects discovered, some of which were calculated to pollute the water supply of the ward occupied by these patients. The latter defect has been remedied, and the others are in course of amelioration.

A case occurred (October 13th) at Alpha Terrace, Trumpington. This seems to have been associated with drinking water from a well which had been reported as polluted, but had been allowed by the Justices to remain open for domestic purposes other than drinking.

At Green End, Fen Ditton, two rapidly fatal cases occurred on September 6th and 7th respectively. With regard to the first case it transpired that the man who was the subject of the illness had been eating tinned salmon, and the second case was that of a woman who had acted as nurse to the previous case, and was also stated to have eaten a large quantity of fruit and drank large quantities of water. Beyond these facts the sanitary condition of the premises were found to be in a most unsatisfactory state. Choleraic Diarrhœa.

Measles have prevailed during the latter half of the year, and the Elementary Schools in the following villages have been closed partly on account of Measles and partly on account of Influenza and Scarlatina: Grantchester, Madingly, Comberton, Barton, Impington, Histon, Harston, Hauxton, Haslingfield, Coton, Cherryhinton, Cottenham, Waterbeach, Oakington, and Willingham.

The want of a properly equipped Isolation Hospital was very much felt at the time of the occurrence of the small pox cases at Willingham. It is to be hoped that the question will be re-opened ere long. Isolation Hospital.

WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE.

With regard to the water supply, I can only repeat my recommendations as to the needs of Cottenham, Willingham, Stapleford, and part of Impington. Water Supply.

Twenty-four samples of water have been analysed; four were found to be pure, seven of not high class purity, ten unwholesome, and three unfit for drinking purposes.

Wells have been closed at Cottenham, Impington, and Great Shelford, respectively.

Four wells at Trumpington were ordered by the Authority to be closed, but action has been delayed to allow time for extension of the Water Company's main.

At Great Wilbraham an old well has been closed and a new well made.

Water certificates under Sec. 6 Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, have been granted for four houses at Trumpington, two houses at Cherryhinton, one house at Impington and Great Shelford respectively. With regard to Willingham, the statute is practically inoperative.

Drainage.

At Home End, Fulbourn, about 5 chains of 6-inch glazed pipes have been laid for sewer extension, and the drain in the main street near Chafy's Row has been cleansed and repaired.

At Barton a new drain has been laid across the road near the smith's shop, to abate the nuisance at the ditch near the path leading from Green End to the Church.

The works for the extension of the drain at Pound Yard, Shelford, which should have been commenced and completed during the present year, have been, on application of the owner to the authority, postponed.

The sanitary works for the improvement of the drainage in the neighbourhood of Girton College have been commenced.

The parish drains at Cottenham have been frequently cleansed; but I would here advert to my previous remarks on the need of a systematic reconstruction of the drainage of this populous parish.

The public drains at Cherryhinton and Willingham have been cleansed.

Overcrowding.

Two cases of overcrowding at Trumpington have been satisfactorily abated, in both cases by the removal of several members of the respective families.

Two cases of overcrowding at Cottenham have not yet been abated.

A case of overcrowding at Waterbeach has been satisfactorily abated by vacation of the house.

One instance of overcrowding, caused by the occupation of one house by two families, has been abated by the removal of one of them.

Unhealthy Dwellings.

In regard to unhealthy or dilapidated cottages, the following have been voluntarily vacated:—Two at Horningsea, two at Tabernacle Lane, Willingham, and one each at Fen Ditton Lane, The Lanes, Waterbeach, and near the Church, Coton.

All the above remarks, together with the tables of statistics and of Inspectors' work, I respectfully submit to the Rural District Council.

TABLE A.

Table of Deaths during the year 1894 in the Rural Sanitary District of Chesterton; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (*Columns for Population & Births see Table B.*)	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages.							Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.																						
													Fevers.																	
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upward		Small Pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and Pleurisy.	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	Influenza.	Cancer.	Pyæmia.	Other Diseases.	Totals.
(*a*)	(*b*)	(*c*)	(*d*)	(*e*)	(*f*)	(*g*)	(*h*)	(*i*)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	20*a*	20*b*	20*c*	21	22
Willingham ...	145	30	17	3	7	23	65	Under 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	6	...	...	...	...	11	...	...	...	...	...	22	47
								5 upwds.	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	13	11	11	2	5	7	1	45	98
Fulbourn	77	15	4	4	4	22	28	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	13	19
								5 upwds.	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	4	5	12	...	2	9	...	20	58
Shelford	83	17	9	2	1	20	34	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	2	...	...	1	6	...	...	1	...	...	13	26
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	4	9	2	6	9	...	20	57
Fulbourn Asylum	44	...	...	...	3	23	18	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	2	...	14	1	...	18	44
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	..	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
									...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
									...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
									...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	349	62	30	9	15	88	145	Under 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	10	7	4	...	...	1	18	...	1	1	...	1	48	92
								5 upwds.	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	..	2	...	...	3	1	...	27	25	34	4	27	26	...	103	257

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring outside district among persons belonging thereto. Addenbrooke's Hosptl.	7	...	...	1	1	4	1	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	3	7
Union Workhouse ...	13	...	...	1	...	5	7	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	8	13
Deaths occurring within district among persons not belonging thereto. County Asylum	40	...	...	...	2	22	16	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
								5 upwds.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	1	...	14	1	...	15	40

TABLE B.

Table of Population, Births, and of New Cases of Infectious Sickness coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1894, in the Rural Sanitary District of Chesterton; classified according to DISEASES, AGES, *and* LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities.	Population at all Ages.	Registered Births.		New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.													Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.												
								Fevers.												Fevers.									
	Census. 1891.			Small Pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	English Cholera.	Erysipelas.			Small Pox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Perpetual.	English Cholera.	Erysipelas.		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Willingham ...	9364	251	Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	2	1	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fulbourn ...	6559	156	Under 5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shelford	7541	181	Under 5	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	8	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fulbourn Asylum			Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	8	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	23464	588	Under 5	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			5 upwards	2	19	5	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

NOTE.—The Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, came into operation in the District on November 7th, 1889. There is no Isolation Hospital for the use of the sick.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR OF NUISANCES FROM JANUARY 1, 1894, TO DECEMBER 31, 1894.

Special complaints received during the year	60
Complaints entered in the journal	476
Overcrowded houses reported to the Authority	6
Houses unfit for human habitation	6
Houses repaired	5
Cottages and premises cleansed	60
Houses, cottages, and articles therein fumigated after infectious cases of fever...	68
Legal proceedings—Summons to fumigate a cottage after an infectious case of fever	1
Disinfectant sent out to infected houses and unhealthy premises	198
House waste-water pipes disconnected from open ditches and laid into settling cesspools and wells	4
House waste-water pipes laid into stormwater drains disconnected	1
House drains cleansed; one of same newly trapped	19
New made parish drains with glazed pipes	1
Slaughter-house drains cleansed	7
Privies repaired and converted into dry-earth closets ...	3
Newly provided dry-earth closets	2
Removal of accumulations of dung, stagnant water animal and other refuse	198
Swine removed—being improperly kept	1
Samples of water analysed for the Sanitary Authority ...	24
Ten of the same unwholesome, and four wholesome.	
Seven not of high-class purity, six of the wells ordered to be partly closed.	
Three unfit for drinking purposes: the wells closed by order of the Authority.	
Water certificates granted by the Authority as a condition for occupation of newly-erected houses	8
Seven are supplied by pipes from the Cambridge Water Co.'s mains, and one supplied from an old well situate on the adjoining property.	
Wholesome water supplies provided to old houses where the old wells are polluted with sewerage, etc.—two are supplied from the Cambridge Water Co.'s main pipe, and one from a newly made well on the premises, the water of which is not of high class purity	3
Newly-provided parish pumps in lieu of old ones	1

W. E. MASTERS,

Inspector of Nuisances.